

ENTOMOLOGICAL NEWS

AND

PROCEEDINGS OF THE ENTOMOLOGICAL SECTION

THE ACADEMY OF NATURAL SCIENCES, PHILADELPHIA.

VOL. XXXI.

JUNE, 1920.

No. 6.

CONTENTS

Skinner—The Genus <i>Pyrrhocalles</i> Mabille with the Description of a New Form (Lep., Hesperidae).....	151	Editorial—Entomology in the United States National Museum.....	174
Crampton—Remarks on Dr. MacGillivray's Paper entitled "The Eyes of Insects".....	153	New Chief of Bureau in New Jersey....	174
Goding—The Known Membracidae of Ecuador (Homop.).....	155	The Louisiana Entomological Society..	175
Marchand—Thermotropism in Insects.....	159	Skinner—A New Variety of <i>Lemonias</i> (Lepid.).....	175
Chamberlin—The Spider of Saltair Beach (Arach., Aran.).....	165	Skinner— <i>Pamphila californica</i> (Lepid.).....	175
Ainslee—Notes on <i>Gonatopus ombrodes</i> , a Parasite of Jassids (Hymen., Homop.).....	169	Banks—A Rare Pamphlet (Hym., Lep., Neur.).....	176
		Schaus—Synonymy of Some Species of <i>Thecla</i> (Lepid.).....	176
		Entomological Literature.....	177
		Obituary—Franklin Dye.....	180

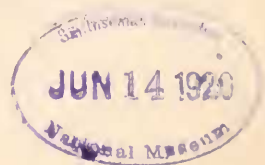
The Genus *Pyrrhocalles* Mabille with the Description of a New Form (Lepidoptera, Hesperidae.)

By HENRY SKINNER, Philadelphia.

The genus *Pyrrhocalles* was described in the *Genera Insectorum* (Hesperidae) in 1904. The only species mentioned is *Pamphila antiqua* Herrich-Schaffer and the localities given are the islands of Cuba and Haiti in the West Indies. We have in the collection of The Academy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia three forms: one from Haiti and San Domingo, one from Cuba, and one from Jamaica. The insect from Jamaica was described by Mr. William Schaus as *Phemiades jamaicensis*.*

This is a perfectly good species and shows no tendency to gradation. We have four specimens of a *Pyrrhocalles* from eastern Cuba which I have always taken to be *antiqua* Herr.

* Proc. U. S. Natl. Museum, 1902, 24, 440.



Schaff., but they do not agree with the description of *antiqua*. The description of *antiqua* agrees perfectly with the specimens from Haiti, and Mr. Schaus suggests that Herrich-Schaffer may have had a Haitian specimen before him when he described *antiqua*. Mr. Schaus also says that his Cuban specimens all lack the small spots on the primaries and I think all his specimens were probably collected by himself in the Santiago region (Oriente). I have never seen any species of *Pyrrhocalles* from Porto Rico and I do not know whether there are any on that Island. Dr. C. T. Ramsden has a fine collection of Cuban Lepidoptera, and I wrote to him for information in regard to *antiqua*. His reply follows:

"My specimens certainly have not the spots you have drawn as on the San Domingo specimens, but mine are all from the environs of Guantanamo. Possibly those from western Cuba may have the spots. The question is to get some from western Cuba and I shall try to get them. The Herrich-Schaffer type may have come from around Havana as Gundlach did his first collecting in and about Matanzas Province. It is strange that Gundlach (Cont. Entomologia Cubana) does mention these spots, and probably did have a Cuban specimen before him. I have always been in doubt whether Gundlach made his descriptions from specimens before him and taken by himself, or whether he copied the Herrich-Schaffer descriptions. I am inclined to think, however, that he made his own descriptions from material before him. His descriptions in some cases are not quite complete, or at least not as complete as one should desire. I have never detected a mistake, nor noticed any kind of nature-faking. I notice he says he found the species only in western Cuba."

To try and clear up the matter for the present I propose the name **orientis** for the unspotted form found in eastern Cuba. The *type* is a male from Guantanamo (San Carlos ?), Cuba, taken June 25, 1910, for which I am indebted to Dr. Ramsden, in the collection of The Academy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia.

It will probably be useful to have the original descriptions as the works in which they are contained are not commonly in libraries.

"*Pamphila antiqua* HS. One of the largest species, though with narrower wings than *statius*. Black brown, all wings as far as about the middle beautiful cinnamon-red, which color is finely divided by black ribs, on the anterior wing as far as branch 3 and on the back wing everywhere reaching

over the middle, in cell 3-7 of the primaries forms a bow-shaped row of little spots, on its costal half, however, reaches only to the middle of the wing. Underneath the ground-color lighter, and the wing strongly covered with cinnamon-colored scales, a bow-shaped row of still lighter spots behind the middle, one such spot on the middle. The spots of the under side lighter and larger than above."† [Translation.]

Dr. Ramsden kindly sent me the description of *antiqua* by Gundlach.

"Up to the present this species is known only from the Island of Cuba, western part. I do not know the larva or the chrysalis. I do not see any marked difference in the coloring of each sex. The insect is rare and visits the flowers. On the upper side the four wings are brown (dark brown), with their basal half of a pretty reddish cinnamon and a transverse line of spots of the same color on the anterior wings. Under side of anterior wings are dark brown with a band of spots which correspond to those on the upper side, this band of spots begins at the base of the anterior border then separating from it in a circle till it nearly reaches the anterior border. The posterior wings below are of ferruginous brown color with an arch-shaped series of cinnamon colored spots, as also a single central spot of this same color, all of which are barely visible. Between the wings 50 mm."§ [Translation.]

The Jamaican species is readily separated by the difference in the markings on the upper side of the secondaries. In the Cuban and Haitian forms the black color does not extend into the cinnamon color of the central area of the wing.

Remarks on Dr. MacGillivray's Paper entitled "The Eyes of Insects."

By G. C. CRAMPTON, PH.D., Massachusetts Agricultural College, Amherst, Mass.

In a class of animals like the Insecta, which includes such a diverse and multitudinous array of forms ranging from the extremely ancient and primitive types to the more recent and highly modified ones, it is extremely difficult to discover any features which are peculiar to one of the larger subdivisions of the class, and which are characteristic of all of its members without exception. Although it may be much simpler to ignore these exceptions when they occur only in a few scattered

† Corresp. Blatt Regensb. 1863, 17, p. 142.

§ Gundlach, Entomologia Cubana, 1881, p. 150.